(b) whether it will not amount to violation of privacy; and

(c) whether air passengers are regularly informed of the fact that they can be seen naked through the machine?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) A body scanning check point security system has been provided to Delhi International Airport (Pvt.) Ltd. for use on trial basis at Domestic Terminal 1 B, of IGI Airport, New Delhi. The equipment has strength to detect Metal, Ceramic, Plastic and Wood.

(b) It has been claimed by the manufacturing company that the privacy of individuals can be protected. However, this aspect would specifically be kep in view during trials/evaluation of the equipment.

(c) The equipment is not operational at present and the question of subjecting passengers to the body scanning will arise only after satisfactory conduct of trials.

Air service between Delhi and Goa

2126. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines have stopped running a direct flight from Goa to Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons for the premier national airline to neglect one of the most internationally favoured tourist destination; and

(c) whether the Indian Airlines propose to restart the service in near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indian Airlines had to discontinue the operation of the direct non-stop flight between Delhi and Goa effective March, 2002 due to poor load factor. However, Indian Airlines continues to operate a daily service between Delhi and Goa and return sector with a stop over at Mumbai.

(c) Indian Airlines presently has no plans to re-start direct flight on Delhi-Goa-Delhi route.